

Appl. No. 10/600,402
Amtd. Date Feb. 17, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Nov. 17, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A battery-locking mechanism to secure a battery having an upper end[,] in a portable electronic device, comprising:

a battery-receiving compartment having an upper wall and a lower wall, an aperture being defined through the upper wall;

a plurality of partition walls defining a receptacle located outside the battery-receiving compartment and in communication with the aperture, the receptacle being divided into a first notch and a second notch; and

a spring element including a base portion and an elastic portion, the base portion being securely received in the first notch of the receptacle, the elastic portion being received in the second notch, and a free end of the elastic portion substantially extending to the aperture;

wherein the base portion comprises a first panel and a second panel, the first panel is connected with the second panel at an end thereof, and a nose-shaped projection is formed on an outside surface of the first panel; and

a tab protrudes from the upper end of the battery, extending and extends into the aperture when the battery is arranged into the battery-receiving compartment, the spring element then presses pressing against the tab of the battery.

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Claims 2-3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 31, wherein the elastic portion extends from a bottom end of the second panel.

Claim 5 (original): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 4, wherein the elastic portion comprises a first folded part, a second folded part, and a contact part.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 5, wherein the contact part has a ~~semi-cylinder~~ semicylindrical shape which is positioned adjacent to the corresponding aperture.

Claim 7 (original): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 6, wherein a shoulder extends from a bottom of the second notch and the first folded part sits on the shoulder.

Claims 8-10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): A battery-locking mechanism to secure a battery having an end in a portable electronic device, comprising:

a battery-receiving compartment being defined by several sidewalls and a bottom, at least an aperture being defined through one of the sidewalls; and

at least an elastic securing means, comprising a fixed end portion and a free end portion, the elastic securing means being received within a housing of the portable electronic device with the free end portion substantially extending to the aperture;

wherein a tab protrudes from the end of the battery, extending and extends into the aperture when the battery is arranged into the battery-receiving compartment,

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the free end portion of the elastic securing means then presses-pressing against the tab of the battery; and

wherein the fixed end portion comprises a first panel and a second panel, the first panel is integrally and flexibly formed with the second panel, the free end portion of the elastic securing means extends from a bottom end of the second panel, and a nose-shaped projection is formed on an outside surface of the first panel.

Claims 12-13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (currently amended): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 1311, wherein the free end portion comprises a first folded part, a second folded part, and a contact part.

Claim 15 (original): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 14, wherein a receptacle is defined outside the battery-receiving compartment and in communication with the aperture.

Claim 16 (original): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 15, wherein the receptacle is divided into a first notch and a second notch perpendicular to the first notch.

Claim 17 (original): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 16, wherein the fixed end portion of the elastic securing means is received in the first notch.

Claim 18 (original): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 17, wherein the free end portion of the elastic securing means is received in the second notch.

Claim 19 (original): The battery-locking mechanism of claim 18, wherein a shoulder extends from a bottom of the second notch and the first folded part of the

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elastic securing means sits on the shoulder.

Claims 20-21 (canceled)